

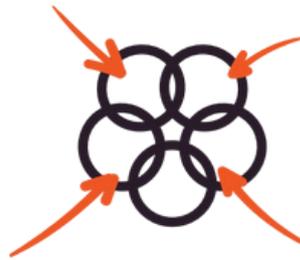
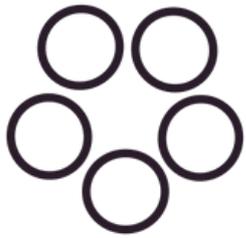
The Forge Brook Trust

5 schools

Community

Forged strengths

Shared vision



Dear Parents and Families,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a good break and are keeping safe and warm in this very cold weather. Thank you for helping your children come to school ready to learn, even with the icy conditions.

This month is special for us because The Forge Brook Trust is now seven months old. Since we started on 1st June 2025, our five schools have become a strong team. Working together has already helped pupils, staff and our whole community. Each school benefits from being part of a bigger family that supports one another.

At the end of last term, there were lots of exciting activities in all our schools. Children took part in nativities, concerts, festive events, science workshops, trips and creative projects. Our staff worked hard to make these moments enjoyable, and it was great to see so many families getting involved.

Our learning has also been going really well. In our primary schools, phonics and early reading have continued to improve, supported by shared training across Delves, Hillary and Palfrey. At Joseph Leckie, older students worked hard on their mock exams and took part in careers interviews, creative lessons and inspiring school trips.

Teachers from our schools regularly meet in subject groups to share ideas, plan activities together and learn from one another. We also have special groups for pupils with special educational needs, for children who speak English as an additional language, and for teaching and learning across the Trust. All of these help us make our schools even better.

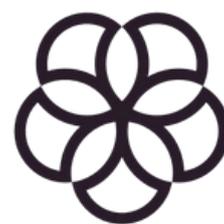
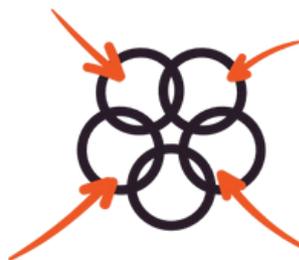
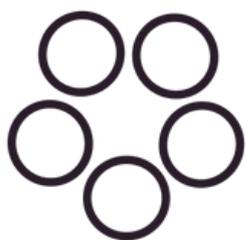


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Family engagement remains a real strength across the Trust. Stay and Play sessions, phonics workshops, reading events and SEND (Special Educational Needs) coffee mornings have been well attended, and many of you took part in meetings focused on attendance, transition and wellbeing. Our dedicated Trust SEND Lead, Mrs Preece has been working across all our schools, supporting children, families and staff, working alongside our Trust Educational Psychologist, Mrs Raju to make a positive difference to a growing number of children.

Our Trust counsellor, Sally, is also supporting pupils and staff in all of our schools. The Forge Brook Connect project, which is following 18 families over several years, is already giving us helpful ideas about how to improve transitions and family support. Thank you to everyone taking part.

Our pupils have shown great kindness and generosity. They donated to food banks, the Jamaica Hurricane Appeal and Operation Christmas Child. Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need were also celebrated with enthusiasm, showing the values of kindness, respect and inclusion that are important across our Trust.

Behind the scenes, our staff have worked extremely hard. In November, all 500+ staff came together at Walsall Arena for our first Trust Training Day. It was a brilliant day of teamwork and shared learning. Recent audits and reviews have given very positive feedback, showing that we are starting 2026 with strong foundations. Our trustees and governors—including our growing number of parent governors—continue to support and guide us.

This term, pupils across all five schools have lots to look forward to. They will enjoy new and exciting activities, creative competitions and joint projects between schools. Teachers will keep working closely together to make lessons even more fun, inspiring and ambitious. With the strong start we have made, 2026 is set to be a fantastic year for everyone in The Forge Brook Trust.

We also want to strengthen our partnership with parents and carers. Later this term, we will launch our first Trust wide parent survey so you can share your views and help shape our future. We hope many of you will take part.

Thank you for your ongoing support. The partnership between home and school is central to everything we do, and your involvement helps our pupils to thrive.

We wish you a warm, safe and positive start to the new term.

Wishing you all a warm, safe and positive start to the new term.

Warm regards,

James Ludlow
Chief Executive Officer
The Forge Brook Trust

Amanda Arnold
Director of School Improvement
The Forge Brook Trust

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ABOUT THE FORGE
BROOK TRUST

